

Identifying good practices, promising policy initiatives and case studies to support the Ninth GFMD 2016

The project

The GFMD Research and Policy Initiative aims to complement and provide additional empirical support to the roundtable discussions of the Ninth Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD). As a collaborative effort of the ILO, IOM and UNDP in Bangladesh, it will identify good practices and promising policy initiatives relevant to the GFMD sub-themes and assess the evidence available to identify any perceived impact on migrant and host populations. The strengths, weaknesses and unintended impacts of initiatives, policies and practices will be outlined to provide ideas, lessons and examples for participating governments and other interested parties. The project will contribute to the growing evidence base available to develop innovative policy responses to cross-cutting migration and development challenges globally.

Background

The Ninth GFMD is an opportunity to build on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted in 2015, and to develop a common understanding of its migration and development targets and indicators with the international community. The Government of Bangladesh is the Chair of the Ninth GFMD and will host the GFMD Summit in Dhaka in December 2016.

The Ninth GFMD 2016 has three sub-themes and six round tables:

1 Economics of Migration and Development

- RT 1. 1 Lowering the costs of migration
- RT 1.2 Connectivity and migration (people to people contact)

2 Sociology of Migration and Development

- RT 2.1 Migration, diversity and harmonious societies
- RT 2.2 Protection of the human rights of migrants in all situations

3 Governance of Migration and Development

- RT 3.1 Migrants in situations of crises: conflict, climate change and disasters caused by natural hazards
- RT 3.2 Principles, processes and institutions for orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration

Approach and method

The GFMD Research and Policy Initiative will provide a coordinated and coherent joint ILO, IOM and UNDP contribution as part of the GFMD process. It is being coordinated by IOM Bangladesh, and draws on support from ILO and UNDP based on their respective areas of thematic, regional and strategic expertise. Focal points have been assigned within each agency to facilitate coordination and enable the compilation of good practices, completed studies, and research activities commissioned by the respective agencies nationally, regionally and globally.

Evidence will also be gathered on the thematic priorities of the GFMD through secondary literature searches of peer-reviewed articles, grey literature (non-academic literature and research materials produced by organizations outside traditional academic publishing channels) to identify promising/emerging practices implemented by governments, United Nations agencies, development partners, civil society and communities around the globe. Priority will be given to examples which demonstrate innovation, positive impact, transferability (from one context to another), sustainability and appropriateness given the complexities of each societal and cultural context. Case studies will also be developed based on the materials to convey the complexity of migration and development initiatives, designed to assist policy-makers to identify appropriate considerations and ideas in a rapidly changing international migration policy landscape.

Three separate publications will be prepared for each of the sub-themes (Economics, Sociology and Governance), presenting the material gathered in an accessible format. The materials will supplement the research already taking place at the GFMD by the roundtable participants and will enable the ILO, IOM and UNDP to work together and anticipate priorities and future actions to respond to migration and development issues in Bangladesh and elsewhere.

Contributions and further information

Contributions to the project, including ideas for case studies, programmes, policy initiatives and emerging good practices (especially initiatives which have been evaluated) can be sent to the research team for consideration by emailing Jessie Connell, jconnell@iom.int. The reports will be ready for circulation and can be downloaded from the GFMD website and the respective websites of the ILO, IOM and UNDP in mid-November 2016.